# FOR BOARD ACTION

Agenda Item #

Meeting Date:

9/29/2009

**SUBJECT:** 

October 4 – 10, 2009 Public Power Week Resolution

PREPARED BY:

Tony Benson, Communications Coordinator

### ITEM DESCRIPTION:

RPU, along with communities across the country, will celebrate Public Power Week October 4 through 10, 2009. This is a week to promote the benefits of public power which include: superior service, excellent reliability, local employment, a commitment to conservation, and community connections.

In recognition of Public Power Week, RPU will take part in several activities and will utilize a number of communication tactics over the course of the week.

- News release will be sent out communicating the events over Public Power Week including communication about signing up for the SLP tours
- Facebook posting of events
- RPU employees and board members can volunteer to help the Rochester Area Habitat for Humanity build a house on October 6 and October 8
- RPU will have a display at University Square downtown displaying Conserve & Save information and the benefits of public power on October 7 and October 9 from 11-1 p.m.
- Tours of SLP and the new ERP project will be available for the public on October 8 and October 9. Must sign up to attend
- Electric safety and energy conservation booklets will be given away to children at the Service Center
- Follow up news release on the number of people impacted and communicated to over Public Power Week

#### FOR CAPITAL PURCHASES/BIDS/MAJOR PROJECTS:

Not Applicable

### **UTILITY BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

The Board is requested to approve the attached resolution and request that the Mayor and Common Council designate October 4 - 10, 2009, as Public Power Week in Rochester.

ROCHESTER PUBLIC UTILITIES



## RESOLUTION

### PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING PUBLIC POWER WEEK, OCTOBER 4-10, 2009

### ROCHESTER PUBLIC UTILITIES HELPS OUR COMMUNITY IN POWERFUL WAYS

WHEREAS, we, the citizens of Rochester, Minnesota, place high value on local control over community services and therefore have chosen to operate a community-owned, locally controlled, not-for-profit electric utility and, as consumers and owners of our electric utility, have a direct say in utility operations and policies; and

WHEREAS, Rochester Public Utilities (RPU) provides our homes, businesses, farms, social service, and local government agencies with reliable, efficient, and cost-effective electricity employing sound business practices designed to ensure the best possible service at not-for-profit rates; and

WHEREAS, RPU is a valuable community asset that contributes substantially to the wellbeing of local citizens through energy efficiency, customer service, environmental protection, economic development, and safety awareness; and

WHEREAS, RPU is a dependable and trustworthy institution whose local operation provides many consumer protections and continues to make our community a better place in which to live and work, as well as contributes to protecting the global environment;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that RPU will continue to work to bring lower-cost, safe, reliable electricity to community homes and businesses just as it has since 1894, the year when the utility was created to serve all the citizens of Rochester; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the week of October 4-10 be designated the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Public Power Week in order to honor RPU for its contributions to the community and to make its consumer-owners, policy makers, and employees more aware of its contributions to their well-being and how it makes their lives powerful; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that our community joins hands with more than 2,000 other public power systems in the United States in this celebration of public power and recognition that RPU is good for consumers, business, the community, and the nation.



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